CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1.   **(Currently Amended)**   A method for dynamically switching between network protocols, the method comprising:

conducting network communications from a client system via a first network protocol;

receiving, in the client system, performance data for the first network protocol;

receiving, in the client system, performance data for a second network protocol available to the client system;

while conducting network communications with the first network protocol, automatically determining whether switching from the first network protocol to the second network protocol would improve performance for the client system; and

in response to determining that switching to the second network protocol would cause improved performance for the client system, automatically switching from the first network protocol to the second network protocol;

providing a user interface for receiving an instruction from a user to switch network protocols;

in response to receiving an instruction from a user to switch to another particular protocol, switching from the second network protocol to the particular network protocol, regardless of whether switching from the second network protocol to the particular network protocol would improve performance for the client system.

2.   (Original)   The method of Claim 1, wherein the first network protocol and second network protocol comprise a wireless network protocol selected from the group consisting of 802.11a, 802.11b and 802.11g.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

receiving, in the client system, performance data for a third network protocol available to the client system;

while conducting network communications with the first network protocol automatically determining whether switching from the first network protocol to the third network protocol would improve performance for the client system; and

in response to determining that switching to the third network protocol would cause improved performance for the client system, automatically switching from the first network protocol to the third network protocol.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

determining that switching to the second network protocol would cause improved performance based on energy consumption for the client system; and

switching from the first network protocol to the second network protocol.

5.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

storing performance data for the first network protocol and second network protocol in the client system; and

accessing the performance data for the first network protocol and second network protocol.

6.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein performance data for the first network protocol and second network protocol comprises signal quality data.

7.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein performance data for the first network protocol and second network protocol comprises signal strength data.

8. **(Currently Amended)** An information handling system for dynamically switching between network protocols, the information handling system comprising:

a user interface configured to receive instructions from a user to switch network protocols;

a receiver module **including logic instructions stored in tangible computer-readable media and** operable to receive communications governed by at least two network protocols;

a performance data module **including logic instructions stored in tangible computer-readable media and** associated with the receiver module, the performance data module operable to obtain network performance data for the at least two network protocols; and

a dynamic switching module **including logic instructions stored in tangible computer-readable media and** associated with the performance data module, the dynamic switching module operable to**:**

monitor performance data and dynamically switch between network protocols based on the network performance data**; and**

switch between network protocols in response to an instruction from a user via the user interface to switch to a particular network protocol, regardless of whether switching from to the particular network protocol would improve performance for the information handling system.

9. (Original) The information handling system of Claim 8, further comprising a performance data storage module operable to store performance data, the performance data storage module associated with the performance data module and the dynamic switching module.

10. (Previously Presented) The information handling system of Claim 9, wherein the performance data storage module further comprises at least one register, the at least one register operable to store performance data.

11.   (Original) The information handling system of Claim 8, wherein the dynamic switching module further comprises:

a network protocol setting module operable to identify wireless communications according to the at least two network protocols;

a performance data comparison module operable to compare performance data for the at least two network protocols, and determine if switching to a second network protocol would improve network performance; and

the dynamic switching module operable to switch to a second network protocol if the performance data comparison module determines that switching to a second network protocol would cause improved performance.

12.   (Original) The information handling system of Claim 8, wherein the at least two network protocols comprise wireless network protocols selected from the group consisting of 802.11a, 802.11b and 802.11g.

13.   (Original) The information handling system of Claim 8, wherein the performance data module further comprises a signal quality indicator operable to monitor signal quality associated with communications according to each of the at least two network protocols.

14.   (Original) The information handling system of Claim 8, wherein the performance data module further comprises a signal strength indicator operable to monitor received signal strength of communications according to each of the at least two network protocols.

15.   **(Currently Amended)**   A wireless network access card for dynamically switching between network protocols, the wireless network access card comprising:

a performance data receiver module, operable to receive performance data for communications according to at least two network protocols; and

a dynamic switching module associated with the performance data receiver module, the dynamic switching module operable to:

monitor and compare performance data of at least two network protocols and dynamically switch network protocols based on performance data; **and**

switch between network protocols in response to a user instruction received via a user interface to switch to a particular network protocol, regardless of whether switching from to the particular network protocol would improve performance for the information handling system.

16.   (Previously Presented)   The wireless network access card of Claim 15, the dynamic switching module further comprising:

a network protocol setting module operable to identify wireless communications according to the at least two network protocols;

a performance data comparison module operable to compare performance data for the at least two network protocols and determine if switching to a second network protocol would improve performance; and

the dynamic switching module operable to switch to a second network protocol if the performance data comparison module determines that switching to a second network protocol would cause improved performance.

17.   (Previously Presented) The wireless network access card of Claim 15, further comprising at least one storage register, the at least one storage register associated with the performance data receiver module and the dynamic switching module and operable to receive performance data from the performance data receiver module and provide performance data to the dynamic switching module.

18.   (Previously Presented)   The wireless network access card of Claim 15, wherein the performance data receiver module further comprises:

a signal quality indicator operable to monitor signal quality associated with communications according to each of the at least two network protocols; and

a signal strength indicator operable to monitor received signal strength associated with communications according to each of the at least two network protocols.

19.   (Previously Presented)   The wireless network access card of Claim 15, wherein the at least two network protocols comprise wireless network protocols selected from the group consisting of 802.11a, 802.11b and 802.11g.

20.   (Previously Presented) The wireless network access card of Claim 15, further comprising a receiver module operable to receive communications governed by the at least two network protocols.

21.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

receiving input from a user regarding one or more performance factors to be used in determining whether to dynamically switch between network protocols; and

determining whether to switch from the first network protocol to the second network protocol based at least on the user input regarding the one or more performance factors.

22.   (Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 21, wherein the input received from the user regarding one or more performance factors comprises at least one of:

a selection from a set of performance factors of one or more performance factors to be used in determining whether to dynamically switch between network protocols; and

a ranking of one or more performance factors.

23.   (Previously Presented) The information handling system of Claim 8, wherein the dynamic switching module is operable to dynamically switch between network protocols based on the network performance data and input from a user regarding one or more performance factors to be used in determining whether to dynamically switch between network protocols.

24.   (Previously Presented)   The information handling system of Claim 23, wherein the input received from the user regarding one or more performance factors comprises at least one of:

a selection from a set of performance factors of one or more performance factors to be used in determining whether to dynamically switch between network protocols; and

a ranking of one or more performance factors.

25.   (Previously Presented)   The wireless network access card of Claim 15, wherein the dynamic switching module is operable to dynamically switch network protocols based on performance data and input from a user regarding one or more performance factors to be used in determining whether to dynamically switch between network protocols.

26.   (Previously Presented)   The wireless network access card of Claim 25, wherein the input received from the user regarding one or more performance factors comprises at least one of:

a selection from a set of performance factors of one or more performance factors to be used in determining whether to dynamically switch between network protocols; and

a ranking of one or more performance factors.